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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/735,548 Confirmation No. : 6564
First Named Inventor : Kenji HORII
Filed : December 14, 2000
TC/A.U. : 1725
Examiner : LEN TRAN

Docket No. : 381NT/49487
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Method of Bonding Metal Plates, Apparatus Therefor
and Hot Strip Mill

**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF CERTIFIED
PRIORITY DOCUMENTS**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants received a Notice of Allowance dated May 3, 2005 with no indication that the certified copies of the priority documents were received. However, as noted on the attached copies of the Claim for Priority and the front pages of certified Japanese application nos. 2000-316522 and 11-354215, all of which were obtained from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's image file wrapper and bear the Office's date-stamp, Applicants did properly submit certified copies of the priority documents.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the priority documents in a Supplemental Notice of Allowability.

If there are any questions regarding this request, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

May 13, 2005

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Vincent J. Sunderdick", is written over a horizontal line.

Vincent J. Sunderdick

Registration No. 29,004

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
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Washington, DC 20044-4300
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VJS/ajf



Attorney Docket: 381NT/49487
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HS

Applicant: KENJI HORII ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/735,548

Group Art Unit: 1725
MAY 25 2001

Filed: DECEMBER 14, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

TC 1700

Title: METHOD OF BONDING METAL PLATES, APPARATUS
THEREFOR AND HOT STRIP MILL

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. §119

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 23, 2001

Sir:

The benefit of the filing date of prior foreign application No. 2000-316522, filed in Japan on October 17, 2000, and of prior foreign application No. 11-354215, filed in Japan on December 14, 1999, is hereby requested and the right of priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 is hereby claimed.

In support of this claim, filed herewith are certified copies of the original foreign applications.

Respectfully submitted,

May 23, 2001

Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
Intellectual Property Group
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Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 628-8800
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日 本 国 特 許 庁
PATENT OFFICE
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

別紙添付の書類に記載されている事項は下記の出願書類に記載されている事項と同一であることを証明する。

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office.

出 願 年 月 日
Date of Application:

2000年10月17日

出 願 番 号
Application Number:

特願2000-316522

出 願 人
Applicant (s):

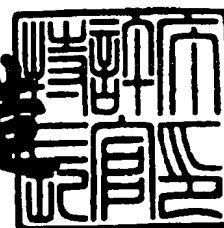
株式会社日立製作所
ポハン アイアン アンド スチール カンパニー リミテ
ッド
リサーチ インスティテュート オブ インダストリアル
サイエンス アンド テクノロジー

CERTIFIED COPY OF
PRIORITY DOCUMENT

2000年12月15日

特許庁長官
Commissioner,
Patent Office

及川耕造





019843
日本国特許庁
PATENT OFFICE
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

別紙添付の書類に記載されている事項は下記の出願書類に記載されている事項と同一であることを証明する。

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office.

出願年月日
Date of Application:

1999年12月14日

出願番号
Application Number:

平成11年特許願第354215号

出願人
Applicant(s):

株式会社日立製作所
ボハン アイアン アンド スチール カンペー リミテ
ッド
リサーチ インスティテュート オブ インダストリアル
サイエンス アンド テクノロジー

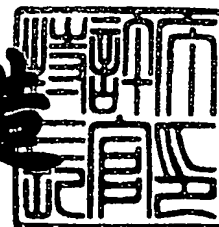
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MAY 25 2001
TC 1700

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PRIORITY DOCUMENT

2000年11月10日

特許庁長官
Commissioner,
Patent Office

及川耕造



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